

**MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
MARINE RESOURCES TASK FORCE**

Town Hall – Council Chambers
2523 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Wednesday, October 8, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Vice Chair Weeg. Members present: Cheryl Clark, Cristina Denegre, Glen Thompson, and Keri Weeg.

Excused: Tree Andre and Bill Veach.

Staff present: Keith Laakkonen

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 10, 2014

On page two, the correct spelling is Dave Parilla.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to approve the minutes as amended; second by Ms. Clark.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

VI. NEW ITEMS

Mr. Laakkonen suggested that reorganization be tabled until next month due to the absence of Ms. Andre and Chair Veach.

VII. CURRENT ITEMS

A. Beachscape Program (Veach)

Mr. Laakkonen received prices for proposed projects and indicated that the Tourist Development Council would fund all future beach plantings. He relayed that Chair Veach suggested delaying future plantings until January. Mr. Laakkonen indicated he would offer a volume discount price to homeowners interested in planting.

B. Adopt a Beach (Andre)

No report.

C. Community Outreach/MRTF Event (Weeg)

Discussion was held concerning attending Monofilament Madness on November 1. Mr. Laakkonen stated he would contact members about attending at a later date. He encouraged members to start planning for Earth Day in April and suggested that members research events that other organizations may be hosting. Ms. Clark offered to meet with the manager of Koreshan for ideas.

D. Newspaper Articles (Veach)

Vice Chair Weeg noted that Chair Veach's article on turtles received positive responses.

E. FAQs (Weeg)

Vice Chair Weeg revealed the FAQs were complete. Mr. Laakkonen stated that he would circulate the list for additional input.

F. Informational Sticker for Rental Boats (Clark)

Mr. Laakkonen stated he would obtain quotes.

G. Brochure Distribution (all)

Ms. Clark suggested displaying brochures at the Florida Welcome Center. Mr. Laakkonen indicated he would research details and he mentioned that a fee may be involved.

H. Canals (Thompson)

Mr. Thompson reported that residents wanted government to finance dredging their private canals. He indicated that if the canal health across the entire island could be linked to water quality issues in Estero Bay, grants were available. Mr. Thompson discussed options on how to proceed. He revealed that Cape Coral sold kits on their website for a device that attracted flora and fauna. Mr. Thompson discussed grants and what other areas were doing concerning canals.

Mr. Laakkonen pointed out that the Town did not include funds in the budget to monitor water quality. He noted that Lee County used a randomized sampling method for monitoring that had been in place for 20 years. Ms. Clark described the method of monitoring undertaken by the Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve. Mr. Thompson offered to share information from other areas with similar issues. Mr. Laakkonen suggested contacting Dr. Serge Thomas at FGCU. Discussion was held regarding options other than dredging. Vice Chair Weeg stated that MRTF should schedule a joint meeting with Council.

I. Investigate Clean Beach Certifications (TBD)

No report.

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS

Vice Chair Weeg questioned the status of the beach chair ordinance. Mr. Laakkonen responded that the issue was in front of Council. He discussed the scope of the issue and concerns from business owners and residents.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Leave as is.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Vice Chair Weeg moved to adjourn; second by Ms. Denegre.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Adopted 11/12/14 with/without changes. Motion by Tier andie
(DATE)

Vote: 6-0 Signature: [Signature]

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